

15063. Misbranding of Depurativo Cacique. U. S. v. 213 Bottles of Depurativo Cacique. Decree of condemnation and forfeiture entered. Product released under bond. (F. & D. No. 21716. I. S. No. 14521-x. S. No. E-6013.)

On or about March 18, 1927, the United States attorney for the District of Porto Rico, acting upon a report by the Secretary of Agriculture, filed in the District Court of the United States for said district a libel praying seizure and condemnation of 213 bottles of Depurativo Cacique, at Camuy, P. R., alleging that the article was being offered for sale in the Territory of Porto Rico, and charging misbranding in violation of the food and drugs act as amended.

Analysis by this department showed that the article consisted essentially of mercuric chloride, potassium chloride, sodium sulphate, alcohol, and water, with sarsaparilla flavoring.

It was alleged in the libel that the article was misbranded, in that the following statements regarding the curative or therapeutic effects of the said article, borne on the labeling, were false and fraudulent, since it contained no ingredient or combination of ingredients capable of producing the effects claimed: (carton and bottle, Spanish translated) "Depurative * * * Depurative For The Blood * * * for certain syphilitic and skin affections acute or chronic Rheumatism;" (circular, Spanish translated) "Depurative * * * for syphilis and all affections of the blood of syphilitic origin. Also for chronic ulcers, acute articular rheumatism, herpes and other skin affections due to impurity of the blood. This depurative has always given satisfactory results for diseases of the blood. It is only necessary to follow carefully a sure treatment and not interrupt it until the desired results are obtained."

On April 19, 1927, Francisco de Jesus, Camuy, P. R., having appeared as claimant for the property and having admitted the allegations of the libel, judgment of condemnation and forfeiture was entered, and it was ordered by the court that the product be released to the said claimant upon payment of the costs of the proceedings and the execution of a bond in the sum of \$250, conditioned that it not be sold or otherwise disposed of contrary to law.

W. M. JARDINE, *Secretary of Agriculture.*

15064. Adulteration and misbranding of morphine sulphate tablets, morphine sulphate and strychnine sulphate tablets, tincture of opium (laudanum), and tincture of belladonna leaves. U. S. v. First Texas Chemical Manufacturing Co. Plea of nolo contendere. Fine, \$200. (F. & D. No. 21564. I. S. Nos. 3978-x, 3980-x, 3981-x, 3987-x.)

On March 3, 1927, the United States attorney for the Northern District of Texas, acting upon a report by the Secretary of Agriculture, filed in the District Court of the United States for said district an information against the First Texas Chemical Mfg. Co., a corporation, Dallas, Tex., alleging shipment by said company, in violation of the food and drugs act, on or about December 12, 1925, from the State of Texas into the State of Louisiana, of quantities of morphine sulphate tablets, morphine sulphate and strychnine sulphate tablets, tincture of opium (laudanum), and tincture of belladonna leaves, which were adulterated and misbranded. The articles were labeled variously: "Hypodermic Tablets Morphine Sulphate $\frac{1}{8}$ gr. Guaranteed by First Texas Chemical Mfg. Co., Dallas, Texas;" "Hypodermic Tablets Morphine and Strychnine * * * Morphine Sulphate $\frac{1}{4}$ gr. Strychnine Sulphate $\frac{1}{60}$ gr. First Texas Chemical Mfg. Co., Dallas, Texas;" "Tincture Opium, U. S. P. (Laudanum) * * * Opium, granulated 45.6 grs. in each fl. oz. * * * Manufactured by First Texas Chemical Mfg. Co., Dallas, Texas;" "Tincture Belladonna Lvs. U. S. P. * * * First Texas Chemical Mfg. Co.—Dallas, Texas."

Analysis by this department showed that a sample of the morphine sulphate tablets, labeled " $\frac{1}{8}$ gr.," contained $\frac{1}{9}$ grain of morphine sulphate per tablet, that a sample of morphine sulphate and strychnine sulphate tablets, labeled "morphine sulphate $\frac{1}{4}$ gr., strychnine sulphate $\frac{1}{60}$ gr.," contained $\frac{1}{6}$ grain and $\frac{1}{75}$ grain, respectively, that the tincture of opium yielded not more than 0.8484 gram of anhydrous morphine per 100 cc., which is 10 per cent below the minimum requirement of the Pharmacopœia, that the tincture of belladonna leaves yielded not less than 0.0421 gram of the alkaloids of belladonna leaves per 100 cc., which is 27 per cent in excess of the maximum requirement of the Pharmacopœia.

Adulteration of the morphine sulphate tablets and the morphine and strychnine sulphate tablets was alleged in substance in the information for the reason that their strength fell below the professed standard under which they were sold, in that the labels represented the said tablets to contain $\frac{1}{8}$ grain of morphine